

Appln. No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 7 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1 is a schematic presentation of a closed carrying frame;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 9 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 2 is a section of a rubber ring seal whose cross-section is in the shape of an “I”;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 3 is a combination of the carrying frame and the rubber ring seal; and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 13 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 4 is a view highlighting [[of]] points of connection between the carrying frame and the rubber ring seal.

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 16:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 16 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1 shows a rigid carrying frame [[()1[]]] made of plastic in this example.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 2 shows a malleable rubber ring seal [[()2[]]] whose cross-section is in the shape of an “I”.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 18 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 3 illustrates the situation after the emergence of the rubber ring seal from the injection machine. The rubber ring seal [[()2[()]], the carrying frame [[()1[()]], and a single connection lug [[()3[()]]] are visible. In this situation, the rubber ring seal – the form of which is now stabilized – can be handled without problems as it passes through the remaining manufacturing and transport phases of its production. A peripheral area that is in contact with the carrying frame [[()1[()]]] is visible. Depending on the specific design of the rubber ring seal [[()2[()]], the carrying frame [[()1[()]]] can be attached at either the inner or the outer peripheral areas [[()4[()]].

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 25 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 4 illustrates several of the connection lugs [[()3[()]]] of which one is visible in Figure 3. For mounting purposes, the carrying frame [[()1[()]]] is snapped off at the intended break points represented by the connection lugs [[()3[()]]], and can then be reused if needed.